

**To:** Marci Todd[m1todd@blm.gov]; Raul Morales[rmorales@blm.gov]; Christopher Cook[cjcook@blm.gov]  
**Cc:** Paul Petersen[ppeterse@blm.gov]  
**From:** Keleher, Barbara  
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**Subject:** Fwd: NV Response to National Monument Review Request for Information, DD: COB 5/31  
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[Additional Information Requested\\_BARNM \(1\).docx](#)  
[Executive Summary\\_BARNM \(2\).docx](#)  
[IDRR\\_NM\\_BARNM\\_5\\_25\\_17 \(1\).docx](#)  
[Executive Summary Gold Butte National Monument.docx](#)  
[Gold Butte National Monument Data Call - 1 \(1\).docx](#)  
[Gold Butte National Monument Data Call - 1 \(2\).docx](#)

Hi Marci, Raul and Chris,

No worries as I know how busy you are! Attached below are 6 documents which contain the responses from Nevada's 2 National Monuments. Alicia and Lee have posted these documents to the WO Monument Review Google Drive Folders, as instructed by WO.

It has been requested that once all the information has been posted that an email message be send to: C.McAlear, N.Moore, S.Butts and T.Fisher with the following information:

**BLM-Nevada has completed initial responses to the recent data call to respond to Executive Order 13792 of April 26, 2017. Executive summaries, a detailed response for the requested items, and supporting sources of information have been uploaded to the respective Google Drive folders for Basin and Range National Monument and Gold Butte National Monument. BLM Nevada staff are available to answer any follow up questions.**

If possible, please forward the wording above to these WO employees. If you can't get this done today I can let Tim Fisher know the situation and that we'll get him the email message asap.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks again!

Barb

ph# 861-6628

**Additional Information Requested on Executive Order on the Review  
of Designations Under the Antiquities Act**

**BLM Responses to Additional Questions**

- a) Any legislative language, including legislation in appropriations bills

The boundary of Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) is similar to designations proposed previously by Harry Reid in two bills, the Garden Valley Withdrawal Act (S.2820 in 2014 and S.196 in 2015), proposing a withdrawal of the area. Neither of these bills passed, and BARNM was designated by Presidential Proclamation in 2015.

- b) Alternative options available for protection of resources applicable at each monument, such as Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, Archaeological Resources Protection Act, Historic Preservation Act and agency-specific laws and regulations.

(b) (5) - DPP

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- c) Designated wilderness areas (name, acreage), Wilderness Study Areas (name if there is one, acreage, type), and/or areas managed to preserve wilderness or roadless characteristics that are not WSAs.

1. Approximately 30,644 acres within BARNM have been managed as the Worthington Mountains Wilderness, which was designated by Congress in 2004 with the passage of the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act.
2. There are no WSAs within BARNM.
3. The 2008 Ely District RMP did not identify any areas to manage for wilderness characteristics within BARNM.

- d) Outstanding R.S. 2477 claims within a monument – type of road claimed and history

There is no known litigation regarding R.S. 2477 assertions in BARNM.

e) Maps –

A map of BARNM is located in the folder (Basin and Range Map jpeg). Additional maps from the public scoping meetings are located at:

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=dispatchToPatternPage&currentPageId=88824>

f) Cultural or historical resources, particularly Tribal, located near a monument but not within the boundary that might benefit from inclusion in the monument

No cultural or historical resources have been identified by Tribes in proximity to BARNM that might benefit from inclusion in the monument.

g) Other – general questions or comments

1. **Range of Proclamation objects.** The initial DOI data call focuses on cultural objects, but the Proclamation identifies many objects of interest to be protected, such as geologic, natural, scientific, prehistoric, and historic resources.

**Call for Data Related to Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)**

Please help us gather information about each of the items listed below, for each of the National Monuments listed below in Table 1.

- 1) Documents Requested
  - a) Resource Management Plans/Land Use Plans
    - i. Gold Butte National Monument (GBNM) has not yet initiated a Resource Management Plan (RMP). The 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) will be followed in the interim. A PDF document of the Las Vegas RMP/Record of Decision has been uploaded to the Google Drive (LV\_RMP\_ROD\_1998.PDF).
  - b) Record of Decision
    - i. GBNM has not yet initiated a RMP. The 1998 Las Vegas RMP will be followed in the interim. A PDF document of the Las Vegas RMP/Record of Decision has been uploaded to the Google Drive (LV\_RMP\_ROD\_1998.PDF).
  - c) Public Scoping Documents
    - i. Public scoping has not yet been initiated for a GBNM RMP. The first public comment period post-designation associated with GBNM is the DOI Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment.
  - d) Presidential Proclamation
    - i. A PDF document of the Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation (December 28, 2016) was uploaded to the Google Drive (Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation 2006.pdf).
- 2) Information on activities permitted at the Monument, including annual levels of activity from the **date of designation to the present (Designation date for GBNM is December 28, 2016 - information is not yet available for most of FY17)**
  - a) Recreation - annual visits to site
    - i. The BLM uses the Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) to report visitor use. GBNM is a subset of the Las Vegas Field Office. Full reporting for annual visitation 2017 will not be available until the end of September. A PDF document of the visitor use data for 2011-2016 for the Gold Butte area has been uploaded to the Google Drive (GBNM Visitor Use Data 2012-2016 (RMIS).pdf).
    - ii. Specific visitation information to the GBNM is not available at this time.
  - b) Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)
    - i. There has been no coal, oil, gas, or renewable production within the GBNM since the designation. There is no energy transmission infrastructure within GBNM.
  - c) Minerals - annual mineral production on site
    - i. There has been no mineral production within the GBNM since designation.
  - d) Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)
    - i. Commercial seed collection (managed under the forestry program), is allowed and permitted in areas in the GBNM that are not in desert tortoise critical habitat. 2017: 700 lbs of globemallow.
  - e) Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)

- i. **Mesquite Community Allotment (AZ04832):** currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. Approximately 131 AUMs have been billed based on the acreage of the allotment within the Gold Butte NM from 12/29/2016 to 5/30/2017.
  - i. **Lime Spring Allotment (AZ02012):** currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. No application for grazing has been received or approved for the Lime Spring Allotment since the date of monument designation 12/28/2016. Zero AUMs have been authorized or billed since monument designation through the present 5/30/2027.
- f) **Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available**
  - i. The GBNM provides for the collection of certain natural materials by Native American Indians, including firewood, under a BLM permit. Information regarding firewood collection is included under the discussion of timber production.
  - ii. The GBNM is open to hunting and fishing, which is regulated by the Nevada Department of Wildlife. This data would be available from the Nevada Department of Wildlife.
- g) **Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available**
  - i. The GBNM includes important cultural values. Local tribes, particularly the Moapa Tribe whose homeland covered the monument, use the monument for ceremonies and to visit sacred sites. Traditions of hunting is still practiced by tribal members, as is collection of medicinal and ceremonial plants, edible herbs, and materials for crafting items like baskets and footwear. The BLM issues free use permits for collection of materials for ceremonial purposes.
  - ii. According to the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (NV SHPO) database and the BLM GIS Cultural data, there are 614 recorded archaeological sites and potentially five archaeological districts, or densely clustered large prehistoric and historic sites within the bounds of the monument.
  - iii. More than 60 percent of these sites are prehistoric (pre-dating the 1800s) and contain rock art, rock shelters, roasting pits, ceramics stone tools, and prehistoric trails. Many contain datable remains such as thermal features (hearths) and storage features. Historic sites include a historic mining town, concentrations of historic features and debris, including roads, fences, and evidence of mining activities. Mines in the area date from World War I and II.
  - iv. The BLM has not completely surveyed the monument. Between 2006 and 2008, when the Gold Butte area was surveyed for cultural resources, about 19,212 acres was subjected to sample survey, followed by a non-random survey of approximately 11,984 acres. The total percentage of acreage that has been surveyed for cultural resources is about 10 percent.
- 3) **Information on activities occurring during the 5 years prior to designation**
  - b) **Recreation - annual visits to site**
    - i. The BLM uses the RMIS to report visitor use. GBNM is a subset of the Las Vegas Field Office. A PDF document of the visitor use data for 2012-2016 for the Gold Butte area has been uploaded to the Google Drive (GBNM Visitor Use Data 2012-2016 (RMIS).pdf).

- c) Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)
    - i. There has been no production of coal, oil, gas or renewables 5 years prior to designation. There is no energy transmission infrastructure within GBNM.
  - d) Minerals - annual mineral production on site
    - i. There was no production of minerals 5 years prior to designation. The area was closed to mineral materials in the 1998 Las Vegas RMP and was withdrawn to mineral entry in 2002.
  - e) Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)
    - i. Commercial seed collection (managed under the forestry program), is allowed and permitted in areas in the GBNM that are not in desert tortoise critical habitat. 2013: 2,000 lbs of globemallow.
  - f) Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)
    - i. **Mesquite Community Allotment (AZ04832):** currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. Authorized use based on grazing bills in Rangeland Administration System (RAS) and adjusted by the acreage (13%) within the GBNM.
      - 10/1/2016 – 12/28/2016 = 76 AUMs
      - 3/1/2016 – 5/30/2016 = 78
      - 10/1/2015 – 2/28/2016 = 129
      - 3/1/2015 – 6/1/2015 = 80
      - 10/1/2014 – 2/28/2015 = 129
      - 3/1/2014 – 6/30/2014 = 105
      - 10/1/2013 – 2/28/2014 = 129
    - ii. **Lime Spring Allotment (AZ02012):** currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. Authorized use based on grazing bills in RAS.
      - 2016: 155 AUMs (ephemeral)
      - 2015: No bill – zero AUMs
      - 2014: Non-use – zero AUMs
      - 2013: 173 AUMs (ephemeral)
      - 2012: 173 AUMs (ephemeral)
      - 2011: 190 AUMs
  - g) Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available
    - i. The monument does provide for the collection of certain natural materials, under BLM permit.
  - h) Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available
    - i. See response to 2.g.
- 4) Information on activities that likely would have occurred annually from the date of designation to the present **if the Monument had not been designated**

(b) (5) - DPP

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- DOI-2019-07 01296

- i. The public process preceding designation is outlined in the Fast Facts and Q&A regarding GBNM. A PDF document of the Fast Facts and Q&A was uploaded to the Google Drive (Fast Facts and Q&A.pdf).

**7) Terms of Designation**

- i. Refer to the Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation for the terms of designation. A PDF of the Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation was uploaded to the Google Drive (Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation 2006.pdf).



Table 1. List of National Monuments Included in Review (per DoI Press Release dated May 5, 2017)

National Monument	Location	Managing Agency
Basin and Range	Nevada	BLM
Bears Ears	Utah	BLM, USFS
Berryessa Snow Mountain	California	USFS, BLM
Canyons of the Ancients	Colorado	BLM
Carrizo Plain	California	BLM
Cascade Siskiyou	Oregon	#N/A
Craters of the Moon	Idaho	NPS, BLM
Giant Sequoia	California	USFS
Gold Butte	Nevada	BLM
Grand Canyon-Parashant	Arizona	BLM, NPS
Grand Staircase-Escalante	Utah	BLM
Hanford Reach	Washington	FWS, DOE
Ironwood Forest	Arizona	BLM
Mojave Trails	California	BLM
Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks	New Mexico	BLM
Río Grande del Norte	New Mexico	BLM
Sand to Snow	California	BLM, USFS
San Gabriel Mountains	California	USFS
Sonoran Desert	Arizona	BLM
Upper Missouri River Breaks	Montana	BLM
Vermilion Cliffs	Arizona	BLM
Katahdin Woods and Waters	Maine	NPS
Marianas Trench	CNMI/Pacific Ocean	FWS
Northeast Canyons and Seamounts	Atlantic Ocean	NOAA, FWS
Pacific Remote Islands	Pacific Ocean	FWS
Papahānaumokuākea	Hawai'i/Pacific Ocean	NOAA, FWS
Rose Atoll	American Sāmoa/Pacific Ocean	FWS

## **Executive Summary of Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)**

### **Key Information about Basin and Range National Monument**

Basin and Range National Monument was designated on July 10, 2015. BARNM consists of 526,413 acres in Lincoln County, Nevada and 177,172 acres in Nye County, Nevada for a total of 703,585 acres. These acres include only public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) within the boundary of the monument. Prior to designation, the area was managed by the BLM and continues to be managed by BLM following designation. Located approximately two hours north of Las Vegas, BARNM offers a remote and rural experience in proximity to a major metropolitan area. Overall, multiple use activities are allowed in BARNM that are compatible with the protection of resources and objects identified in the Presidential Proclamation. Multiple use activities are subject to decisions made in current and future BLM resource management planning efforts which include public participation. National monuments and other conservation areas managed by the BLM continue to allow for multiple uses according to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (depending on proclamation language).

### **Summary of Public Engagement Prior to Designation**

Prior to the area being designated a National Monument, Senator Harry Reid introduced two bills, the Garden Valley Withdrawal Act (S.2820 in 2014 and S.196 in 2015), proposing a withdrawal of the area. In February 2015, Interior Deputy Secretary Michael Connor attended a public meeting in Las Vegas with Harry Reid and Congresswoman Dina Titus to discuss their proposals to protect Nevada's public lands. The meeting was held in Clark County and approximately 300 people expressed support for the creation of Basin and Range and Gold Butte National Monuments. The campaign to designate Basin and Range as a national monument had support in Nevada from MGM Resorts International, Wynn Resorts, Barrick Gold Corporation, Rockwood Lithium North America, the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority.

Sentiment against designation of the area as a National Monument or National Conservation Area has been expressed in Lincoln County. Sentiment in support of designation of the area as a National Monument has been expressed in Clark County. There was some degree of outreach to local elected officials prior to the designation of the area.

### **Summary of National Monument Activities since Designation**

An Application for Permit to Drill (APD) was signed following designation in February 2016. This APD was submitted prior to designation of the area in a parcel leased for oil and gas and is considered a valid existing right. BLM continues to authorize grazing permits, Special Recreation Permits, film permits, cave use permits, and authorizations for research activities consistent with the existing land use plan and proclamation. There has been no change in day-to-day management since designation of BARNM and no change in grazing or the number of permitted AUMs. A Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) is in progress.

The Mojave-Southern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council created a Basin and Range National Monument Subcommittee. This Subcommittee met several times in 2016.

**Summary of Activities in Area for 5 years Preceding Pre-Designation**

These public lands have been managed according to the 2008 Ely District Resource Management Plan (RMP), which includes multiple-use management objectives. Approximately 30,644 acres have been managed as the Worthington Mountains Wilderness, which was designated by Congress in 2004 with the passage of the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act. In the 2008 Ely District RMP, approximately 19,987 acres were designated as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern within what is now the BARNM. There has been no change in day-to-day management since designation of BARNM.

**Summary of Available Economic Information since Designation**

A cursory review of economic information is included in the Drive folder (Basin and Range NM – Economic Snapshot).

**Summary of Any Boundary Adjustments since Designation**

Not applicable. There have been no boundary adjustments since designation.

## **Executive Summary of Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)**

### **Key Information about Gold Butte National Monument**

Gold Butte National Monument was established by Presidential Proclamation on December 28, 2016. Prior to designation, the area was managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (285,158 acres) and Bureau of Reclamation (11,779 acres) and continues to be following designation. The BLM manages for multiple use within the Monument (hunting, fishing, recreation, grazing, and valid existing rights such as oil production, etc.), while protecting the vast array of historic and scientific resources identified in the Proclamation and providing opportunities for scientific study of those resources. The resources identified in the Proclamation include the threatened desert tortoise, the once-thought-extinct relic leopard frog, archaeological sites and important areas of spiritual significance to American Indian tribes, historic ranching and mining sites, rare plants such as the Las Vegas buckwheat and Las Vegas bearpoppy, dinosaur tracks, and a large sink hole. Overall, multiple use activities are allowed in Gold Butte National Monument that are compatible with the protection of resources and objects identified in the Presidential Proclamation. Multiple use activities are subject to decisions made in current and future BLM resource management planning efforts which include public participation. National Monuments and other conservation areas managed by the BLM continue to allow for multiple uses according to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (depending on proclamation language).

### **Summary of Public Engagement Prior to Designation**

Beginning in 2008, when Representative Shelley Berkley (D-1-NV) first introduced legislation to establish a more than 350,000-acre Gold Butte National Conservation Area, legislation to provide lasting protection for the larger Gold Butte area has been introduced repeatedly. Most recently, in 2015 Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) and Representative Dina Titus (D-1-NV) introduced S. 199 and H.R. 856, the Gold Butte National Conservation Area Act. On a number of occasions, including in a floor speech on April 7, 2016, Senator Reid stated his desire that the President use his authority under the Antiquities Act to protect the Gold Butte area. Deputy Secretary of the Interior Michael Connor and BLM Director Neil Kornze attended a public meeting hosted by Senator Reid and Representative Titus on February 18, 2015, to hear from the public about protection and conservation of Gold Butte and other areas in Southern Nevada. Many members of the overflow crowd of more than 300 people spoke in support of protecting the Gold Butte area, including representatives from local tribal nations, the travel and tourism industry, local business owners, recreationists, professional and amateur scientists, and state and local elected officials. In 2011, at the request of Senator Reid, then-Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Hayes and Director Kornze (while serving as Senior Advisor to the BLM Director) traveled to the area to witness firsthand its natural and cultural values. During that trip, Deputy Secretary Hayes and Director Kornze held a meeting in Mesquite, Nevada, where they and approximately 50 local citizens, elected officials, and conservation advocates discussed

possible protection for the Gold Butte area. Later that year, Deputy Secretary Hayes held a roundtable at the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce where local elected and appointed officials and stakeholders discussed the economic benefits that could be generated by national recognition of Gold Butte and other public lands in the region.

#### **Summary of Public Scoping in Development of Resource Management Plan**

No public scoping has been conducted for GBNM.

#### **Summary of National Monument Activities since Designation**

Since designation, the BLM-Las Vegas Field Office has developed informational materials including maps, brochures, and website material for GBNM. A Gold Butte Public Information Forum was conducted in Mesquite and included a short presentation that was followed by a question-and-answer period. A portal sign design was developed and approved, and three portal signs have been installed at major access points along the GBNM boundary. There have been multiple volunteer activities including seed collection, habitat restoration, sign installation, and marking of designated routes. The BLM-Las Vegas Field Office has received \$1.7 million through the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) to complete a Historic Properties Treatment Plan to protect three important cultural resource complexes within GBNM. The National Conservation Lands Scientific Studies Support Program awarded \$49,768 to the BLM for assistance agreements with Northern Arizona University and the University of Nevada Las Vegas to research, inventory, and assess the diverse plant communities within GBNM.

#### **Summary of Activities in Area for Five years Preceding Pre-Designation**

These lands have been managed according to the 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan, which includes multiple-use management objectives. BLM lands that are within the monument were managed with some level of a protective designation either under the existing land use plan such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) or as designated Wilderness or Wilderness Study Areas. The GBNM is completely overlapped by ACECs. There has been no change in day-to-day management since designation of GBNM.

#### **Summary of Available Economic Information since Designation**

Economic information has not been developed for GBNM because of its recent designation.

#### **Summary of Any Boundary Adjustments since Designation**

There have been no boundary adjustments to GBNM since the designation.

## Call for Data Related to Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)

### 1. Documents Requested

#### a. Resource Management Plans/Land Use Plans

- i. A Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) is in progress. The 2008 Ely District RMP as amended and the Presidential Proclamation that established BARNM will be followed in the interim. The Ely District Record of Decision and Approved RMP is in this folder (1.a.Ely\_District\_ROD\_Approved\_RMP). Presidential Proclamation 9297 of July 10, 2015 is in this folder (1.d.Presidential\_Proclamation\_9297.pdf). The Ely District RMP was amended by the Nevada and Northeastern California Greater Sage-Grouse Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment in September 2015. The Plan Amendment can be accessed here:  
<https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/planAndProjectSite.do?methodName=dispatchToPatternPage&currentPageId=31103>.

#### b. Record of Decision

- i. A Resource Management Plan (RMP) for Basin and Range National Monument (BARNM) is in progress. The 2008 Ely District RMP, as amended and the Presidential Proclamation that established BARNM will be followed in the interim. The Ely District Record of Decision and Approved RMP is in this folder (1.a.Ely\_District\_ROD\_Approved\_RMP).

#### c. Public Scoping Documents

- i. The DOI Notice of Intent to Prepare a Resource Management Plan for Basin and Range National Monument, Nevada, and an Associated Environmental Impact Statement published in the Federal Register on June 1, 2016 with a public scoping period for the BARNM RMP from June 1 to July 21, 2016 (1.c.Federal Register.Vol81.Issue105.June1.2016.pdf).
- ii. The Scoping Report and associated appendices are located within this Drive folder (1.c.BARNM\_Scoping\_Report and BARNM\_Scoping\_APX\_A\_D.pdf).

#### d. Presidential Proclamation

- i. Proclamation 9297 of July 10, 2015 is in this folder (1.d.Presidential\_Proclamation\_9297.pdf).

### 2. Information on activities permitted at the Monument, including annual levels of activity from the **date of designation to the present (Designation date for BARNM is July 10, 2015 - information is not yet available for most of FY17).**

#### a. Recreation - annual visits to site

- i. The BLM uses the Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) to report visitor use. Full reporting for annual visitation 2017 will not be available until the end of September. BLM continues to grant Special Recreation Permits on a case-by-case basis in this area following designation.
  - ii. Given the public interest in archaeological resources, the BLM manages several public sites that are now located within BARNM. Interpretive brochures are available at these public sites, and there are visitor register boxes at these sites where visitors are encouraged to voluntarily sign the visitor log. Since 2002, the BLM has collected the visitor logs and tracked visitor use. The public sites are located at Mount Irish, White River Narrows and Shooting Gallery. The following list shows the public site name and the time of installation of the register box.
    - White River Narrows: September 2002
    - Shooting Gallery: April 2003
    - Mount Irish: September 2003
    - In January 2006, two additional public sites were created at Mount Irish and steel markers were installed to correlate with the public interpretative brochure. At this time the Mount Irish location was named "Paiute Rocks" and the other two sites were named "Shaman Hill" and "Shaman Knob". The Visitor Inventory at Public Sites by Year Table (2.a.Visitor\_Inventory\_Public\_Sites\_by\_Year.pdf) shows the number of visitors to these sites by year.
- b. **Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)**
- i. There are no producing oil and gas wells and no coal developments in BARNM. While public lands in the monument are now withdrawn from mineral leasing, valid existing rights were protected under the proclamation. Therefore, development on existing leases could occur.
  - ii. Several parcels were leased for oil and gas prior to designation and some of these leases have not expired. An Application for Permit to Drill (APD) was approved in February 2016 for a lease that expires in 2020. Although the APD was approved, no wells have been drilled in BARNM since designation.
  - iii. Since designation of the BARNM, there has been no new construction of energy transmission infrastructure.
- c. **Minerals - annual mineral production on site**
- i. There are no locatable mining operations in the BARNM.
  - ii. There are three existing gravel pits that were issued in 2012 for a 10-year period

to Lincoln County for road maintenance. These permits are current and have not expired.

- d. **Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)**
  - i. There is no timber production in BARNM. Forestry products in BARNM are limited to non-commercial Christmas tree cutting permits and permits for the collection of wood products (i.e. posts and firewood).
- e. **Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)**
  - i. There have been no changes in AUMs permitted since designation. Individual permittees may adjust the amount of AUMs they use based on land health, resource conditions, or individual reasons. There are 32 allotments wholly or partially contained within BARNM. These allotments include approximately 32,119 permitted Animal Unit Months (AUMs). The boundary of BARNM does not coincide with allotment boundaries. Therefore, the number of AUMs was calculated using percentages of allotments within the BARNM boundary and is not precise because distribution of livestock is not uniform in allotments. Due to data gaps and limitations in the Rangeland Administration System, we cannot calculate billed AUMs at this time.
- f. **Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available**
  - i. Subsistence activities are those that provide the bare essentials for living: food, water, and shelter. The Federal Subsistence Management Program provides opportunities for subsistence way of life in Alaska on federal public lands and waters. There are no formal subsistence programs outside of Alaska. Therefore, BARNM does provide subsistence under this definition.
  - ii. The number of state-licensed hunters is available from the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW). The entire BARNM area is open for hunting, which is regulated by NDOW. There are no fisheries resources within BARNM.
- g. **Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available**
  - i. The BARNM Planning Area contains a wide variety of cultural resources, including prehistoric resources, historic resources, and traditional use areas important to contemporary Native peoples. However, at this time, a large percentage of the planning area (over 90 percent) has not been subjected to a class III cultural resource inventory. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that there are many unknown cultural resources that have been neither documented nor evaluated for eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic



Places (NRHP). The cultural objects of the area listed in the proclamation include a Clovis point, campsites, prehistoric artifacts, worked bone, shell beads, seed processing equipment, animal remains, clay stockpiles, projectile points, and prehistoric rock art. Historic mining districts and the ranching lifestyle are also cultural values within BARNM.

ii. In December of 2015, a records search was conducted for a Class I Cultural Resource Survey. The records used to complete this Class I Inventory were:

- Bureau of Land Management Master Title Plats available online at <http://www.nv.blm.gov/LandRecords/>
- Caliente Field Office Archaeological Archive
- Ely District Office Archaeological Archive
- General Land Office Survey Plats available online at <http://www.nv.blm.gov/LandRecords/>
- Mineral Connection Sheets available online at <http://www.nv.blm.gov/LandRecords/>
- Mineral Survey Plats available online at <http://www.nv.blm.gov/LandRecords/>
- Nevada Cultural Resource Information System (NVCRIS) <https://nvcris.shpo.nv.gov/>
- Nevada State Museum Archaeological Archive (available digitally in the Caliente Field Office)
- Southern Nevada Archaeological Archive (available digitally in the Caliente Field Office)

iii. A majority of the cultural resource work that has been completed within the BARNM was performed as part of a Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative (LCAI) project to Inventory three Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. This project resulted in a full class III inventory of the 15,100 acres within the Mount Irish ACEC, which is entirely within the BARNM. This project also included the Shooting Gallery ACEC and entirely encompassed the approximately 5,105 acres that make up the Shooting Gallery portion of the BARNM. The 20,205 acres of inventory associated with this single project makes up more than half (56%) of the acres inventoried within the BARNM. The rest of the work that has been completed within the BARNM has been completed in compliance with the NHPA for individual projects, or by smaller LCAI projects. Within the monument boundaries, there have been 89 inventories for a total of 35,909 acres of

inventory. This means approximately 5% of the Monument has been inventoried. During the various inventories, 709 resources have been documented. These documented resources include:

*Isolated Artifacts*

- 85 isolated finds of the prehistoric period
- 9 isolated finds of the historic period

*Cultural Resource Sites*

- 414 sites of the prehistoric period
- 75 sites with artifacts present from both the prehistoric and ethnohistoric time periods
- 16 sites of the ethnohistoric period
- 2 sites with artifacts present from both the prehistoric and historic time periods
- 82 sites of the historic period

Of the 709 resources documented, only the White River Narrows Archaeological District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). There are 272 properties eligible for the NRHP. There are 405 properties that are not eligible for the NRHP. The remaining 31 properties have not been evaluated for their eligibility to the NRHP.

**3. Information on activities occurring during the 5 years prior to designation**

**a. Recreation - annual visits to site**

- i. BLM did not have established methods for tracking visitors to this area prior to designation other than data shown in The Visitor Inventory at Public Sites by Year Table (2.a.Visitor\_Inventory\_Public\_Sites\_by\_Year.pdf), which shows the number of visitors to public sites by year. BLM also granted Special Recreation Permits on a case-by-case basis in this area prior to designation.

**b. Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)**

- i. There was no energy production from coal, oil, gas, or renewables during the five years prior to designation. Several parcels were leased for oil and gas during the

five years prior designation. Some parcels were denied for leasing due to visual resource constraints in the years prior to designation. An Application for Permit to Drill (APD) was submitted prior to designation and was approved following designation in 2016.

- ii. One of the proposed routes for the Yucca Mountain rail corridor was withdrawn for a right-of-way prior to designation of the area as a National Monument. The withdrawal for the right-of-way expired in December 2015.
  - iii. No energy transmission infrastructure was constructed within the BARNM during the five years prior to designation.
  - c. **Minerals - annual mineral production on site**
    - i. There was no locatable mineral production on site during the five years prior to designation. There are three existing gravel pits that were used by Lincoln County for road maintenance prior to designation and are currently still in use.
  - d. **Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)**
    - i. There is no timber production in BARNM. Forestry products in BARNM are limited to non-commercial Christmas tree cutting permits and permits for the collection of wood products (i.e. posts and firewood).
  - e. **Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)**
    - i. The number of AUMS permitted was the same prior to designation as after designation. Individual permittees may adjust the amount of AUMs they use based on land health, resource conditions, or individual reasons. There are 32 allotments wholly or partially contained within BARNM. These allotments include approximately 32,119 permitted Animal Unit Months (AUMs). The boundary of BARNM does not coincide with allotment boundaries. Therefore, the number of AUMs was calculated using percentages of allotments within the BARNM boundary and is not precise because distribution of livestock is not uniform in allotments. Due to data gaps and limitations in the Rangeland Administration System, we cannot calculate billed AUMs at this time.
  - f. **Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available**
    - i. See response to 2.f.
  - g. **Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available**
    - i. See response to 2.g.
4. Information on activities that likely would have occurred annually from the date of designation to the present **if the Monument had not been designated**

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## 5. Changes to boundaries - dates and changes in size

- i. There have been no changes to boundaries.

## 6. Public Outreach prior to Designation - outreach activities conducted and opportunities for public comment

- i. Prior to the area being designated a National Monument, Senator Harry Reid introduced two bills, the Garden Valley Withdrawal Act (S.2820 in 2014 and S.196 in 2015), proposing a withdrawal of the area. In February 2015, Interior Deputy Secretary Michael Connor attended a public meeting in Las Vegas with Harry Reid and Congresswoman Dina Titus to discuss their proposals to protect Nevada's public lands. The meeting was held in Clark County and approximately 300 people expressed support for the creation of Basin and Range and Gold Butte National Monuments. The campaign to designate Basin and Range as a national monument had support in Nevada from MGM Resorts International, Wynn Resorts, Barrick Gold Corporation, Rockwood Lithium North America, the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce, and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority.
- ii. Sentiment against designation of the area as a National Monument or National Conservation Area has been expressed in Lincoln County. Sentiment in support of designation of the area as a National Monument has been expressed in Clark County. There was some degree of outreach to local elected officials prior to the designation of the area.

## 7. Terms of Designation

- i. Not applicable; refer to Proclamation for the terms of designation.

**Call for Data Related to Review of National Monuments under EO 13792 (April 26, 2017)**

Please help us gather information about each of the items listed below, for each of the National Monuments listed below in Table 1.

- 1) Documents Requested
  - a) Resource Management Plans/Land Use Plans
    - i. Gold Butte National Monument (GBNM) has not yet initiated a Resource Management Plan (RMP). The 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) will be followed in the interim. A PDF document of the Las Vegas RMP/Record of Decision has been uploaded to the Google Drive (LV\_RMP\_ROD\_1998.PDF).
  - b) Record of Decision
    - i. Gold Butte National Monument (GBNM) has not yet initiated a Resource Management Plan (RMP). The 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) will be followed in the interim. A PDF document of the Las Vegas RMP/Record of Decision has been uploaded to the Google Drive (LV\_RMP\_ROD\_1998.PDF).
  - c) Public Scoping Documents
    - i. Public scoping has not yet been initiated for a GBNM RMP. The first public comment period post-designation associated with GBNM is the DOI Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment.
  - d) Presidential Proclamation
    - i. A PDF document of the Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation December 28, 2016. A PDF was uploaded to the Google Drive (Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation 2006.pdf).
- 2) Information on activities permitted at the Monument, including annual levels of activity from the **date of designation to the present (Designation date for GBNM is December 28, 2016 - information is not yet available for most of FY17)**
  - a) Recreation - annual visits to site
    - i. The BLM uses the Recreation Management Information System (RMIS) to report visitor use. GBNM is a subset of the Las Vegas Field Office. Full reporting for annual visitation 2017 will not be available until the end of September. A PDF document of the visitor use data for 2011-2016 for the Gold Butte area has been uploaded to the Google Drive (GBNM Visitor Use Data 2012-2016 (RMIS).pdf).
    - ii. Specific visitation information to the GBNM is not available at this time.
  - b) Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)
    - i. There has been no coal, oil, gas, or renewable production within the GBNM since the designation. There is no energy transmission infrastructure within GBNM.
  - c) Minerals - annual mineral production on site
    - i. There has been no mineral production within the GBNM since designation.
  - d) Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)
    - i. Commercial seed collection (managed under the forestry program), is allowed and permitted in areas in the GBNM that are not in desert tortoise critical habitat. 2017: 700 lbs of globemallow.
  - e) Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)

- i. **Mesquite Community Allotment (AZ04832)** is currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. Approximately 131 AUMs have been billed based on the acreage of the allotment within the Gold Butte NM from 12/29/2016 to 5/30/2017.
  - i. **Lime Spring Allotment (AZ02012)** is currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. No application for grazing has been received or approved for the Lime Spring Allotment since the date of monument designation 12/28/2016. Zero AUMs have been authorized or billed since monument designation through the present 5/30/2027.
- f) **Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available**
  - i. The GBNM provides for the collection of certain natural materials by Native American Indians, including firewood, under a BLM permit. Information regarding firewood collection is included under the discussion of timber production.
  - ii. The GBNM is open to hunting and fishing, which is regulated by the Nevada Department of Wildlife. This data would be available from the Nevada Department of Wildlife.
- g) **Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available**
  - i. The GBNM includes important cultural values. Local tribes, particularly the Moapa Tribe whose homeland covered the monument, use the monument for ceremonies and to visit sacred sites. Traditions of hunting is still practiced by tribal members, as is collection of medicinal and ceremonial plants, edible herbs, and materials for crafting items like baskets and footwear. The BLM issues free use permits for collection of materials for ceremonial purposes.
  - ii. According to the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (NV SHPO) database and the BLM GIS Cultural data, there are 614 recorded archaeological sites and potentially five archaeological districts, or densely clustered large prehistoric and historic sites within the bounds of the monument.
  - iii. More than 60 percent of these sites are prehistoric (pre-dating the 1800s) and contain rock art, rock shelters, roasting pits, ceramics stone tools, and prehistoric trails. Many contain datable remains such as thermal features (hearths) and storage features. Historic sites include a historic mining town, concentrations of historic features and debris, including roads, fences, and evidence of mining activities. Mines in the area date from World War I and II.
  - iv. The BLM has not completely surveyed the monument. Between 2006 and 2008, when the Gold Butte area was surveyed for cultural resources, about 19,212 acres was subjected to sample survey, followed by a non-random survey of approximately 11,984 acres. The total percentage of acreage that has been surveyed for cultural resources is about 10 percent.
- 3) **Information on activities occurring during the 5 years prior to designation**
  - b) **Recreation - annual visits to site**
    - i. The BLM uses the RMIS to report visitor use. GBNM is a subset of the Las Vegas Field Office. A PDF document of the visitor use data for 2012-2016 for the Gold Butte area has been uploaded to the Google Drive (GBNM Visitor Use Data 2012-2016 (RMIS).pdf).

- c) Energy - annual production of coal, oil, gas and renewables (if any) on site; amount of energy transmission infrastructure on site (if any)
    - i. There has been no production of coal, oil, gas or renewables 5 years prior to designation. There is no energy transmission infrastructure within GBNM.
  - d) Minerals - annual mineral production on site
    - i. There was no production of minerals 5 years prior to designation. The area was closed to mineral materials in the 1998 Las Vegas RMP and was withdrawn to mineral entry in 2002.
  - e) Timber - annual timber production on site (in board-feet, CCF, or similar measure)
    - i. Commercial seed collection (managed under the forestry program), is allowed and permitted in areas in the GBNM that are not in desert tortoise critical habitat. 2013: 2,000 lbs of globemallow.
  - f) Grazing - annual grazing on site (AUMs permitted and sold)
    - i. **Mesquite Community Allotment (AZ04832)** is currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. Authorized use based on grazing bills in RAS and adjusted by the acreage (13%) within the GBNM.
      - 10/1/2016 – 12/28/2016 = 76 AUMs
      - 3/1/2016 – 5/30/2016 = 78
      - 10/1/2015 – 2/28/2016 = 129
      - 3/1/2015 – 6/1/2015 = 80
      - 10/1/2014 – 2/28/2015 = 129
      - 3/1/2014 – 6/30/2014 = 105
      - 10/1/2013 – 2/28/2014 = 129
    - ii. **Lime Spring Allotment (AZ02012)** is currently administered by the Arizona Strip Field Office. Authorized use based on grazing bills in RAS (Rangeland Administration System).
      - 2016: 155 AUMs (ephemeral)
      - 2015: No bill – zero AUMs
      - 2014: Non-use – zero AUMs
      - 2013: 173 AUMs (ephemeral)
      - 2012: 173 AUMs (ephemeral)
      - 2011: 190 AUMs
  - g) Subsistence - participation rates for subsistence activities occurring on site (fishing, hunting, gathering); quantities harvested; other quantifiable information where available
    - i. The monument does provide for the collection of certain natural materials, under BLM permit.
  - h) Cultural - list of cultural uses/values for site; number of sites; other quantifiable information where available
    - i. See response to 2.g.
- 4) Information on activities that likely would have occurred annually from the date of designation to the present **if the Monument had not been designated**

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5) Changes to boundaries - dates and changes in size

- i. There have been no changes to boundaries.

6) Public Outreach prior to Designation - outreach activities conducted and opportunities for public comment

- i. The public process preceding designation is outlined in the Fast Facts and Q&A regarding GBNM. A PDF document of the Fast Facts and Q&A was uploaded to the Google Drive (Fast Facts and Q&A.pdf).

**7) Terms of Designation**

- i. Refer to the Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation for the terms of designation. A PDF of the Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation was uploaded to the Google Drive (Gold Butte Presidential Proclamation 2006.pdf).

Table 1. List of National Monuments Included in Review (per DoI Press Release dated May 5, 2017)

National Monument	Location	Managing Agency
Basin and Range	Nevada	BLM
Bears Ears	Utah	BLM, USFS
Berryessa Snow Mountain	California	USFS, BLM
Canyons of the Ancients	Colorado	BLM
Carrizo Plain	California	BLM
Cascade Siskiyou	Oregon	#N/A
Craters of the Moon	Idaho	NPS, BLM
Giant Sequoia	California	USFS
Gold Butte	Nevada	BLM
Grand Canyon-Parashant	Arizona	BLM, NPS
Grand Staircase-Escalante	Utah	BLM
Hanford Reach	Washington	FWS, DOE
Ironwood Forest	Arizona	BLM
Mojave Trails	California	BLM
Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks	New Mexico	BLM
Río Grande del Norte	New Mexico	BLM
Sand to Snow	California	BLM, USFS
San Gabriel Mountains	California	USFS
Sonoran Desert	Arizona	BLM
Upper Missouri River Breaks	Montana	BLM
Vermilion Cliffs	Arizona	BLM
Katahdin Woods and Waters	Maine	NPS
Marianas Trench	CNMI/Pacific Ocean	FWS
Northeast Canyons and Seamounts	Atlantic Ocean	NOAA, FWS
Pacific Remote Islands	Pacific Ocean	FWS
Papahānaumokuākea	Hawai'i/Pacific Ocean	NOAA, FWS
Rose Atoll	American Sāmoa/Pacific Ocean	FWS